



DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

Volume 2, Issue 14

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Status Report from the Program Manager

Congratulations goes to Kent County for achieving 100% participation. There are only **8** remaining departments not participating in the DFIRS program bringing the statewide participation rate up to **87%**. While 100% actual participation by the end of 2002 will not be achieved, a commitment of 100% participation has been achieved.

In December Sussex County will be 100% complete leaving seven New Castle County departments. All seven departments are currently in different stages of implementing incident reporting.

If at any time your department has questions or requires assistance regarding incident reporting please contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for immediate assistance.

Training Needs

It makes no difference if your department has third party software or the free federal software; incident reporting is exactly the same. The most important thing about incident reporting is learning what the data elements truly mean. Everyone can benefit from detailed incident reporting training. If your department has newly elected individuals or would simply like a refresher on proper incident reporting please contact Crystal Beach. In house training can be conducted during the day, evening or weekend.

Software Update

As a reminder, the newest NFIRS version 5.2 is now available. Departments using the free federal software will need to either download the upgrade from <http://www.nfirs.fema.gov/> or receive a copy of the new software along with installation instructions from our office. Departments using third party software should request the newest version from their software vendor.

Coding Questions

A recent question received at the SFMO is, **“How do I record a lightning strike to a pole that scorched ground cover around the pole?”**

Answer:

- Record the incident as incident type 251 – Excessive Heat, overheat scorch burns with no ignition. Excludes lightning strikes with no ensuing fire (code 814)

Another question posed is, **“If I give aid to a department and the incident has civilian casualties due to fire do I fill out the civilian casualty module?”**

Answer:

- **NO** - It is critical to the reporting system that the aid-**receiving** department always report the total number of civilian casualties associated with the incident.
- Each department reports the details on its own **fire service** casualties

Congratulations!

The following departments are active electronic DFIRS participants:

1. Indian River Volunteer Fire Co
2. Lewes Fire Department Inc
3. Bethany Beach Fire Co
4. Little Creek Volunteer Fire Co
5. Elsmere Fire Co #1 Inc
6. Citizen's Hose Co #1 Inc
7. Volunteer Hose Co
8. Dover Robbins Hose Co #1 Inc
9. Cheswold Volunteer Fire Co
10. Carlisle Fire Co Inc
11. Dagsboro Fire Co
12. Frankford Volunteer Fire Co
13. Selbyville Volunteer Fire Co
14. Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept Inc
15. Roxana Volunteer Fire Co
16. Farmington Fire Co
17. Clayton Fire Co #1 Inc
18. Felton Community Fire Co
19. Wilmington Fire Dept
20. Greenwood Volunteer Fire Co
21. Camden-Wyoming Fire Co Inc

Release Date: December 1, 2002

**ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS ROUND NINE
AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT TOTALS MORE THAN
\$26.5 MILLION**

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) are pleased to announce the ninth round of 2002 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Awards for 390 fire departments. The monetary investment announced in this round exceeds \$26.5 million for fire departments throughout the United States.

"The USFA continues to rapidly develop and announce these important financial awards. The USFA anticipates beginning the Fire Prevention Grant Award announcements in early January 2003. As we end and begin these projects, and the many other initiatives here at the USFA, I would ask for you to help other departments, fire officers and firefighters to become aware of the importance of visiting the USFA website frequently," said USFA Administrator R. David Paulson.

President Bush and the Congress have made this significant investment possible through the USFA, which is a part of FEMA. These funds will be used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, fire fighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, EMS programs, and Fire Prevention and Safety Programs. FEMA and the USFA expect to announce a total of at least 5500 grants before the end of the calendar year. The total of all awards, when completed, will represent a \$360M investment to enhance fire and EMS service delivery nationwide.

The Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States. A list of all current award recipients announced to date is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.

**Congratulations Delaware Grant Recipients:
Carlisle Fire Company
Citizen's Hose Company
Wilmington Fire Department**

22. Magnolia Volunteer Fire Co Inc
23. Bowers Fire Co
24. Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
25. Laurel Fire Dept Inc
26. Millville Volunteer Fire Co
27. Leipsic Volunteer Fire Co
28. Five Points Fire Co
29. Houston Volunteer Fire Co
30. Rehoboth Beach Vol Fire Co
31. Delmar Fire Dept Inc
32. Georgetown Fire Co Inc
33. Ellendale Volunteer Fire Co
34. Harrington Fire Co Inc
35. Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Co
36. Delaware City Fire Co
37. Odessa Fire Co
38. Milton Fire Dept Inc
39. Blades Volunteer Fire Co
40. Port Penn Volunteer Fire Co
41. Gumboro Volunteer Fire Co
42. Marydel Volunteer Fire Co Inc
43. Hockessin Fire Co
44. Townsend Fire Co
45. Hartly Volunteer Fire Co
46. Belvedere Fire Co
47. Memorial Fire Co Inc
48. South Bowers Volunteer Fire Co
- 49. Holloway Terrace**
- 50. Claymont Fire Co**
- 51. Minquas Fire Co #1 Inc**
- 52. Frederica Volunteer Fire Co**
- 53. Brandywine Hundred Fire Co #1**

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or cbeach@state.de.us

PLEASE POST FOR ALL DEPARTMENT MEMBERS